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UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 000980

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: WIRELESS INTERNET SURVEY: HONDURAS

REF: SECSTATE 85946

1. In response to reftel request, Post provides the following information regarding the use of Wireless Fidelity (Wi-Fi) technologies in Honduras.

2. According to the National Telecommunications Commission (Conatel), Honduras has not yet allocated any unlicensed radio-frequency spectrum for use by Wi-Fi and similar wireless technologies. Equipment utilizing broadband spectrum technologies, such as Wi-Fi, are subject to a general license granted through Conatel's resolution NR016/00. Honduran telecom norm does not make any distinction between indoor and outdoor use for radio-frequency allocations. Effective radiated power radio-frequency devices, with a rate equal or less than 10 milliwatts, are subject to a general license allowing them to operate freely.

3. In Honduras, Wi-Fi systems can be used without a license, as equipment utilizing broadband spectrum technologies are only subject to a general license, granted through Conatel's resolution NR016/00.

4. Wi-Fi systems can be used for commercial purposes as long as the operator has an exploitation permit for public use.

5. At present, there are no commercial Wi-Fi networks that provide service to the public operating in Honduras. In the event that Wi Fi systems are used, these would only be allowed for data transmission operations connected via satellite or cable TV networks.

Pierce